

Application No. 10/618,105

Amendment dated March 7, 2008

Reply to Ex parte Quayle Action of February 4, 2008

Docket No.: NY-KIT 359-US

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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) An image processing apparatus having synthesizing means for synthesizing image information in the form of digital signals and template information, the apparatus comprising:
 - the template information having a reference display posture corresponding to either a vertical or horizontal posture of the image information, the vertical and horizontal postures having different vertical and horizontal sizes from each other;
 - rotation processing means for rotating the template information so as to cause said reference posture thereof to correspond to said either posture of the image information when said either posture of the image information differs from said reference display posture of the template information, thereby providing optimum template information for synthesizing the image information; and
 - converting means for converting the template information according to a predetermined rule when said rotation processing means rotates the template information ~~effects the rotation operation~~.
2. (Currently amended) The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the template information comprises image data for forming, in said reference display posture, horizontal sides and vertical sides around the image information and said rule includes a numerical value representing a ratio for converting a width of the horizontal side of the template information prior to said rotation operation to a width of the vertical side of the template information after said rotation ~~operation~~ processing means rotates the template information and a numerical value representing a ratio for converting a width of the vertical side of the template information prior to said rotation ~~operation~~ processing means rotating

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the template information to the width of the horizontal side of the template information after said rotation processing means rotates the template information operation.

3. (Currently amended) The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the template information comprises character string data for displaying a leading character according to a predetermined reference coordinate system in the reference display posture; and said rule includes a parameter for converting a display position of the leading character into a value corresponding to a length of one side of the image information after the said rotation operation processing means rotates the template information and a parameter for setting an inter-character distance of the character string according to the length of said one side.

4. (Currently amended) The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the template information comprise image data to be set within the image information based on predetermined locate information in the reference display posture; and said rule includes a parameter for converting the locate information so that the template information may be displayed at a predetermined position within the image information during the rotation operation of the template information by said rotating processing means.

5. (Previously presented) The image processing apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising an edit processing means including an image layer for storing the image information and a template layer for storing the converted template information, the edit processing means being capable of freely adjusting positional relationship between the image layer and the template layer.

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Docket No.: NY-KIT 359-US

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6. (Previously presented) An image processing method having the step of synthesizing image information in the form of digital signals and template information, the method comprising the steps of:

setting the template information to a reference display posture corresponding to either a vertical posture or a horizontal posture of the image information, the vertical and horizontal postures having different vertical and horizontal sizes from each other;

rotating the template information according to the posture of the image information so as to cause said reference display posture thereof to correspond to said either posture of the image information when said posture of the image information differs from said reference display posture of the template information, thereby providing optimum template information for synthesizing the image information; and

converting the template information according to a predetermined rule when said rotating step is effected, thereby providing.

7 - 17. (Canceled)